1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to juvenile diversion programs; 3 amending s. 943.0582, F.S.; requiring, rather than 4 authorizing, the Department of Law Enforcement to 5 adopt rules to provide for the expunction of certain 6 nonjudicial records of the arrest of a minor upon 7 successful completion by the minor of certain 8 diversion programs; authorizing such expunctions for 9 certain first-time misdemeanor offenses; creating and 10 revising definitions; revising the circumstances under 11 which the department must expunge certain nonjudicial 12 arrest records; deleting the department's authority to 13 charge a processing fee for the expunction; amending 14 s. 985.125, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; creating s. 985.126, F.S.; creating a 15 definition; requiring a diversion program to submit to 16 17 the department a certification for expunction of the nonjudicial arrest record of a child under specified 18 19 circumstances; requiring a diversion program to submit to the Department of Juvenile Justice specified data 20 21 relating to diversion programs; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to compile and publish 22 23 the data in a specified manner; authorizing a child 24 under certain circumstances to deny or fail to 25 acknowledge his or her participation in a specified

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diversion program or the expungement of a certain nonjudicial arrest record unless an exception applies; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Section 943.0582, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

943.0582 Prearrest, postarrest, or teen court Diversion program expunction.—

- (1) Notwithstanding any law dealing generally with the preservation and destruction of public records, the department shall adopt rules to may provide, by rule adopted pursuant to chapter 120, for the expunction of a any nonjudicial record of the arrest of a minor who has successfully completed a prearrest or postarrest diversion program for a misdemeanor offense minors as authorized by s. 985.125.
 - (2) (2) (a) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Diversion program" means a program under ss. 985.12, 985.125, 985.155, or 985.16 or a program to which a referral is made by the state attorney under 985.15(1)(g).
- (b) "Expunction" has the same meaning ascribed in and effect as s. 943.0585, except that:
- 1. The provisions of s. 943.0585(4)(a) do not apply, except that the criminal history record of a person whose record

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is expunded pursuant to this section shall be made available only to criminal justice agencies for the purpose of:

- <u>a.</u> Determining eligibility for prearrest, postarrest, or teen court diversion programs;
- $\underline{\text{b.}}$ when the record is sought as part of A criminal investigation; or
- c. Making a prosecutorial decision under s. 985.15; or when the subject of the record is a candidate for employment with a criminal justice agency. For all other purposes, a person whose record is expunged under this section may lawfully deny or fail to acknowledge the arrest and the charge covered by the expunged record.
- 2. Records maintained by local criminal justice agencies in the county in which the arrest occurred that are eligible for expunction pursuant to this section shall be sealed as the term is used in s. 943.059.
- (b) As used in this section, the term "nonviolent misdemeanor" includes simple assault or battery when prearrest or postarrest diversion expunction is approved in writing by the state attorney for the county in which the arrest occurred.
- (3) The department shall expunge the nonjudicial arrest record of a minor who has successfully completed a prearrest or postarrest diversion program if the minor has never previously received an expunction under this section and the diversion program submits a certification for expunction that minor:

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(a) Submits an application for prearrest or postarrest diversion expunction, on a form prescribed by the department, signed by the minor's parent or legal guardian, or by the minor if he or she has reached the age of majority at the time of applying.

- (b) Submits to the department, with the application, an official written statement from the state attorney for the county in which the arrest occurred certifying that he or she has successfully completed that county's prearrest or postarrest diversion program, that his or her participation in the program was based on an arrest for a nonviolent misdemeanor, and that he or she has not otherwise been charged by the state attorney with, or found to have committed, any criminal offense or comparable ordinance violation.
- (c) Participated in a prearrest or postarrest diversion program that expressly authorizes or permits such expunction.
- (d) Participated in a prearrest or postarrest diversion program based on an arrest for a nonviolent misdemeanor that would not qualify as an act of domestic violence as that term is defined in s. 741.28.
- (e) Has never been, before filing the application for expunction, charged by the state attorney with, or found to have committed, any criminal offense or comparable ordinance violation.
 - (4) The department is authorized to charge a \$75 processing

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fee for each request received for prearrest or postarrest diversion program expunction, for placement in the Department of Law Enforcement Operating Trust Fund, unless such fee is waived by the executive director.

(5) Expunction or sealing granted under this section does not prevent the minor who receives such relief from petitioning for the expunction or sealing of a later criminal history record as provided for in ss. 943.0583, 943.0585, and 943.059, if the minor is otherwise eligible under those sections.

Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 985.125, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

985.125 Prearrest or postarrest diversion programs.-

- (3) The prearrest or postarrest diversion program may, upon agreement of the agencies that establish the program, provide for the expunction of the nonjudicial arrest record of a minor who successfully completes such a program pursuant to s. 943.0582.
- Section 3. Section 985.126, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
- 985.126 Diversion programs; denial of participation or expunged record; data collection.—
- (1) As used in this section, the term "diversion program" has the same meaning provided in s. 943.0582.
 - (2) Each diversion program shall submit:
 - (a) A certification for expunction to the Department of

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La	w Enforcer	ment	of	the	child's	nonjudicial	arrest	record	under
s.	943.0582	if	the	chil	Ld:				

- 1. Successfully completes the diversion program for a first-time misdemeanor offense; and
- 2. Has not otherwise been charged by the state attorney with, or been found to have committed, a criminal offense or comparable ordinance violation may, upon agreement of the agencies that establish the program, provide for the expunction of the nonjudicial arrest record of a minor who successfully completes such a program pursuant to s. 943.0582.
- (b) Data to the department in a form prescribed by the department which identifies for each child who:
 - 1. Participates in the diversion program:
 - a. The race, ethnicity, gender, and age of the child;
- b. The offense committed with citation to the specific law establishing the offense; and
- c. The judicial circuit and county in which the offense was committed and the law enforcement agency that had contact with the child for the offense.
- 2. Is eligible for the diversion program, but who, instead, is referred to the department, provided a notice to appear, or arrested:
 - a. The data required under subparagraph 1.; and
- b. Whether the child was offered the opportunity to participate in the diversion program. If the child:

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<u>:</u>	i.	Was	not	offered	such	opportuni	ity,	, the	div∈	ersion	program
shall	pro	ovide	the	reason	for	declining	to	make	the	offer.	•

- <u>ii.</u> Was offered such opportunity, the diversion program shall indicate whether the child or his or her parent or legal guardian declined to participate in the program.
- (3) The department shall compile the data required under subsection (2) and publish it on the department's website in a format that is sortable by judicial circuit, county, law enforcement agency, race or ethnicity, gender, age, and offense committed.
- (4) A child who successfully completes a diversion program for a first-time misdemeanor offense may lawfully deny or fail to acknowledge his or her participation in the program and a nonjudicial arrest record expunged under s. 943.0582, unless the inquiry is made by a criminal justice agency, as defined in s. 943.045, for a purpose described under s. 943.0582(2)(b)1.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

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